NAVFAC proudly building on 170-year Navy heritage

From Naval Facilities Engineering Command Public Affairs

WASHINGTON – The Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) celebrates 170 years of naval history, Aug. 31.

The 13th Secretary of the Navy, Abel P. Upshur, officially established NAVFAC's predecessor, the Bureau of Naval Yards and Docks in 1842, to execute the design, construction and maintenance of Navy yards and a few other shore stations around the eastern seaboard of the United States. Eventually the Bureau and its responsibilities would grow into the global enterprise known as NAVFAC, which was officially established in May 1966.

"Today's NAVFAC team of Civil Engineer Corps officers, civil servants, Seabees, and contractors are a testimony to the tremendous contributions of those who have given their all to this organization in the past 170 years," said Adm. Christopher Mossey, NAVFAC commander and chief of civil engineers. "I could not be more proud of what our NAVFAC team, around the world, is accomplishing for our supported commanders, the joint warfighter and their families," he said.

With 16 commands located in the United States, Europe, Southwest Asia and the Far East, NAVFAC is the Navy systems command that delivers and maintains high-quality, sustainable facilities, acquires and manages capabilities for the Navy's expeditionary combat forces, enables energy security and environmental stewardship, and provides humanitarian and contingency engineering response.

In fiscal year 2011, NAVFAC delivered more than $13 billion in products and services to supported Navy and Marine Corps commanders, as well as to other federal agencies. The command's worldwide team of planning, construction, facilities services, and acquisition subject matter experts executed approximately 46,000 separate contract actions.

NAVFAC's signature is visible on every Navy and Marine Corps installation around the globe. Nearly every pier, runway, building, gymnasium, barracks, road, utility plant, and other facilities on shore has been constructed or acquired by NAVFAC.

NAVFAC's Public Works Departments answered more than 75,000 emergency and 600,000 service calls in a demanding 24/7 environment. This critical work is a vital enabler for what takes place daily on bases around the world.

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Far East (NAVFAC Far East) is the single facilities command serving Navy, Marine Corps and other DoD activities in the Far East Region. Providing the best-value facility solutions and services to Navy and Marine Corps bases throughout the Far East.

Photo courtesy of NAVFAC Far East

Today, in response to Hurricane Isaac, NAVFAC sent a contingency engineering response team (CERT) made up of 17 military and civilian personnel to Naval Station Gulfport and Naval Air Station-Joint Reserve Base New Orleans. This will be the first time a CERT team will be using an unmanned aerial vehicle with camera, which will take photos from above to help disaster assessment teams better evaluate the facilities and roads on the bases.

Delivering sustainable and cost-effective solutions is increasingly important in the austere fiscal environment the nation is facing. Last year, in support of the secretary of the Navy's ambitious energy goals to help achieve energy security and efficiency throughout the Navy, NAVFAC has helped supported commanders reduce energy consumption by 15 percent from a 2003 baseline. In addition, NAVFAC's contributions to Navy's shore energy program during the last 10 years has resulted in the Navy being awarded 24 percent of all presidential and 29 percent of all federal energy awards.

September promotions offer cool commissary savings

From DeCA Public Affairs

FORT LEE, Va. – As summer fades, commissary customers will see plenty of cool promotions such as the September worldwide case lot sale, giveaways and other money-saving deals, said the Defense Commissary Agency's director of sales.

"As we head toward the cooler days of autumn, we want commissary customers to know we're offering plenty of promotions to help them save money and maximize their benefit," said Chris Burns, DeCA sales director.

Throughout September, DeCA's industry partners – vendors, suppliers and brokers – are collaborating with commissaries to offer discounts beyond everyday savings. Overseas stores may have substitute events for certain promotional programs. Customers are asked to check their local commissary for details on dates and times for the following promotions:

Worldwide case lot sale. Customers should visit http://www.commissaries.com and click the "Case Lot Sales" link under the Shopping tab to find out the dates for their local commissary's case lot sale. Continuing through Oct. 13, case lot events offer hundreds upon hundreds of items – back-to-school items, breakfast foods, pet food, paper goods, diapers, health and beauty care products, frozen foods – some at savings up to 50 percent or more off regular commissary prices. Many of these items are available in the economical "club pack" format. There are certain items available in "mix-and-match" cases, where customers can mix like items of similar size and price – such as canned goods, cereals or cake mixes – in the same case. Overseas, some case lot events will include display autos and motorcycles from the Exchange Overseas New Car Sales Program. The vehicles will be positioned near the commissary along with giveaways and chances to win commissary gift cards.

Oktoberfest! From Sept. 13 to Oct. 10, commissary customers will find sales and coupons for imported items from Germany and Europe. A full line of German products will be available: chocolates, cookies, sauerkraut, mustard, red cabbage, pickles, noodles, coffee and more.

"We Are Family!" From Aug. 23 to Sept. 26, Quaker and Tropicana will offer bundled savings on their brands. Look for in-store displays for coupons and recipes, plus a chance to win a giveaway that includes prizes such as Sony camcorders, e-readers and a Sony tablet with accessories.

"Harvest of Values Sales Event." From Aug. 23 to Sept. 26, Acosta Military Sales will distribute 400,000 full-color coupon flyers to commissaries worldwide offering high-value coupons for commissary shoppers. This event is being offered exclusively at commissaries to honor the women in our military service and promote awareness of their contribution to U.S. military history. As part of the event, the vendor will provide donations to the Women in Military Service for America Memorial located at the entrance to Arlington National Cemetery. The memorial includes an education center; a world-class archive of documents, artifacts and memorabilia; and hosts an education program for children and adults, a speaker's bureau, and a variety of seminars, programs and activities.

Hershey and Overseas Service Corporation. Continuing through September, the Hershey Company will offer commissary patrons a chance to win a 14-foot-6-inch Old Town Saranac canoe (value $549) and military-specific instant redeemable coupons. The following items are part of this promotion: Hershey's milk chocolate 6-packs (for s'mores), strawberry Twizzlers and Hershey's milk chocolate syrup.

"Every day, our commissary staff strives to offer shoppers the very best in high-quality, name-brand items at a significant savings," Burns said. "As always, 'Your commissary definitely makes it worth your trip.' "